have already formulated the National Agriculture Policy which was anounced in July, 2000 and was also laid in the Parliament.

(b) The Policy seeks to actualize the vast untapped growth potential of Indian agriculture, strengthen rural infrastructure to support faster agricultural development, promote value addition, accelerate the growth of agro-business, create employment in rural areas, ensure household food and nutritional security, secure a fair standard of living for the farmers and agricultural workers and their families and discourage migration to urban areas. The Policy will enable the agriculture sector to meet the challenges confronting Indian agriculture today, particularly those stemming from economic liberalization and globalization and in the context of World Trade Organization.

The Policy will promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentally non-degrading and socially acceptable use of the country's natural resources to attain a demand- driven growth with equity, of more than 4 per cent per annum in the agriculture sector in a longterm perspective.

The Policy outlines a nine-pronged strategy such as development of sustainable agriculture, food and nutritional security, generation and transfer of technology, improving management of inputs, providing incentives for agriculture, promoting investments in agriculture, strengthening institutional structure to channelise the energies of small and marginal farmers, ensuring better risk management and introducing management reforms, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

Problems of applicants for import permits for mea imports

3119. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a proper mechanism to solve the grievances of applicants for import permits does not exist;

(b) whether it is a fact that the concerned officers are.irresponsible and refuse to meet the public who come with genuine problems; and

(c) what steps are being taken to make the whole process of issue import permits transparent, as in other Departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYANYADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The existing process for issue of import permits is transparent.

Research projects for agricultural productivity

3120. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed to implement any new research project for increasing agricultural productivity underTenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the project, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYANYADAV): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b)The Department proposes to undertake some new initiatives in the Tenth Five Year Plan and funds are also earmarked subject to the approval from the Planning Commission. However, the Department does not allocate funds State-wise. The details of these new initiatives are as under

	(Rs. in Crore)
i. Impact of climate change on Agricultural Productivity	10.00
ii. Network Project on Organic Farming	5.00
Hi. Network on Transgenics	40.00
iv. National Bureau of Indian Veterinary The Culture	15.00
v. Network on Biosystematics of Insects	15.00
vi NRC for Agricultural Extension	15.00

(c) does not arise.

Boosting milk yield

3121 . SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, as announced by Australian Scientists